

29 November 2012

**TO : Gary Parsloe, National President, Maritime Union of NZ  
Tony Gibson, CEO, Ports of Auckland Ltd**

Gentlemen

I am writing to you, in advance of the impending recommendations from the port dispute facilitation process, to reinforce my strong expectation that the industrial trouble of the past year finally be solved through this facilitation.

It is very clear to me as leader of this region that Aucklanders do not want to see more disruption on the waterfront and especially not as we move into the Christmas period and a new year. The dispute has dragged on far too long and in doing so, has not been good for the port workers, their union, the port company or, in fact, Auckland as a whole.

You will recall I made it clear to both sides of the dispute early on that Auckland needed a modern, flexible and efficient port – but also an industrial relations environment that was sustainable and fair in terms of staff needs. While I preferred that a collective contract be agreed with the Maritime Union through good faith bargaining processes, I have also welcomed the active involvement of the Employment Relations Authority when it proved difficult for you to achieve resolution.

The recommendations that come out of this facilitation process will be the product of an exhaustive and mutually fair process. On behalf of all Aucklanders I hold a strong expectation of both the Port company and the Union to use the recommendations from the facilitation process as a vehicle for ending the dispute and moving forward.

I thank you in anticipation.



**LEN BROWN**  
Mayor of Auckland

Cc Richard Pearson, Chairman, Ports of Auckland Ltd  
Doug McKay, Chief Executive Officer, Auckland Council  
Simon Allan, Chair, Auckland Council Investments Ltd  
Gary Swift, CEO, Auckland Council Investments Ltd  
Helen Kelly, President, Council of Trade Unions  
Carole Beaumont